

**ROCKLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ROCKLAND, MASSACHUSETTS**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING,
MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2010, 6:30 PM
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

The School Committee met on Monday, April 12, 2010, at 6:30 PM at the High School Library. Committee members present were: Mr. Norris, Mrs. Pezzella, Mr. Mills, Mr. Mullen, and Mrs. Werkheiser. Also present were Superintendent Retchless, Assistant Superintendent Scarpelli, and Mrs. Cusick.

Present in the audience were Mr. Sangster, Mrs. Sheehan, Memorial Park Principal; Mrs. McGrath, Esten School Principal; members of the Jefferson School Principal Search Committee; Mrs. Pruitt, Mr. Grimmett, Social Studies Department Chairperson; Jefferson School Principal elect; Mrs. Lonergan, Esten teacher and Esten Haiti Project students; and citizens broadcasting for WRPS/TV.

Mrs. Pezzella introduced Scott Shea and Stephanie Zaremba, High School Student Representatives.

Mrs. Pezzella asked that nominations be opened for Chairman. Mr. Mills nominated Mr. Norris. Mr. Mullen seconded the motion. Mr. Norris was elected Chairman by unanimous vote.

Mr. Norris thanked the Committee for their support.

Mr. Norris asked that nominations be opened for Vice-Chairman. Mr. Mills nominated Mrs. Pezzella. Mr. Mullen seconded the motion. Mrs. Pezzella was elected Vice-Chairman by unanimous vote.

Mr. Norris asked that nominations be opened for Secretary. Mr. Mullen nominated Mr. Mills. Mrs. Pezzella seconded the motion. Mr. Mills was elected Secretary by unanimous vote.

Mr. Mills nominated Mrs. Werkheiser and Mr. Mullen to serve on the Sick Leave Committee. Mrs. Pezzella seconded the motion. Mrs. Werkheiser and Mr. Mullen were elected to serve on the Sick Leave Committee by unanimous vote.

Mr. Mills nominated Mr. Mullen to serve on the North River Collaborative Board of Directors. Seconded by Mrs. Pezzella. It was a unanimous vote.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, the nomination to serve on the Wellness Committee was tabled until the next meeting.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, the following Committee appointments will remain the same as last year:

Mrs. Pezzella & Mr. Norris, Alcohol/Drug Violation Sub-Committee
Mr. Mills, Athletic Department Liaison
Mr. Norris, Fiscal Policy Committee
Mr. Mills & Mrs. Werkheiser, WRPS/TV Community Broadcasting Liaison
Mrs. Pezzella, Early Graduation
Mr. Mullen, Cable Advisory Committee
Mr. Mullen, Budget Sub-Committee Chairman
Mr. Mullen & Mrs. Werkheiser, Energy Sub Committee
Mr. Norris & Mrs. Pezzella, Teachers Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee
Mrs. Pezzella & Mrs. Werkheiser, Secretaries Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee
Mr. Norris & Mr. Mills, Custodians Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee
Mr. Mills & Mr. Mullen, Cafeteria Personnel Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee
Mrs. Werkheiser & Mr. Mullen, Aides Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee

On motion of Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, Robert's Rules of Order for Parliamentary Procedure was unanimously accepted.

On motion of Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the minutes of the meeting of March 22, 2010 were accepted.

The minutes of the South Shore Regional School District Committee meeting for February 17, 2010 were noted.

After a brief discussion regarding outside flyer distributions, a request from Boston Bowl to distribute flyers to the elementary and middle school students was approved on the recommendation of the Superintendent. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

A request from Crossroads for Kids to distribute flyers to the elementary and middle school students was approved on the recommendation of the Superintendent. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

A request from the Ninety-Nine Restaurant/Esten School PAC to distribute flyers to the elementary and middle school students was approved on the recommendation of the Superintendent. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

The Superintendent reported that three high school students with advisor Steven Casagrande competed in the Western New England College Industrial Engineering Competition I Springfield, MA. The team won the competition and each student was awarded \$200 each. This is the second year that a Rockland team has won this competition.

On four motions by Mr. Mills, seconds by Mrs. Werkheiser, unanimous, the following March Monthly Reports were approved:

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| 1) | Administrators | Mr. Sangster, Mr. Stanish, Mrs. McGrath,
Mr. Kohn/Dr. Levine, Mrs. Sheehan |
| 2) | Guidance | Mrs. Cann |
| 3) | Nurse | Mrs. Ryan |
| 4) | Pupil Personnel Services | Ms. Salem |

On five separate motions by Mr. Mills, seconds by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, the following Security Trailer Reports for March were accepted:

- 1) Almshouse
- 2) Esten
- 3) Hartsuff Park
- 4) Jefferson
- 5) Memorial Park

The following April Newsletters were noted:

- 1) Esten
- 2) Jefferson
- 3) Memorial Park
- 4) Middle School

Building Rentals for March were noted.

The Superintendent reported that the number of parent conferences continues to be solid with a total of 3,027 conferences with 100 less students. The Committee hopes that Middle School conferences will increase.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was voted to approve the proposed Middle School Math Program: *Big Ideas Math*, Ron Larson & Laurie Boswell. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was voted to approve the proposed High School Honors Geometry Textbook: *Geometry*, Houghton Mifflin. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was voted to approve the proposed Honors Algebra I Textbook: *Algebra: Structure & Method Book 1*, Houghton Mifflin. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous.

The Superintendent stated that the finalist for the position of CM at Risk has been interviewed and Agostini has been selected. The team of architect, OPM, and CM at Risk is now complete. The Superintendent noted that the fence around the buildings will be installed during the summer, foundation started in the fall, and steel beams during the winter. Mr. Retchless, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Harden toured the auditorium of King Phillip High School designed by Dore & Whittier with the architects last week.

Superintendent Retchless gave the Committee an overview of the background of Mrs. Pruitt, the newly appointed Principal at Jefferson School and introduced her to the Committee. The Committee welcomed Mrs. Pruitt and wished her well. Mrs. Pruitt expressed her desire to begin her duties on the job. Mr. Norris thanked Mr. Kohn and Dr. Levine for their years of service to the school department.

Mr. Norris introduced Mrs. Lonergan, Esten School teacher, and Esten students Lindsey Norris, Lexie Murphy, and Brianna LePaglia, who described the projects that they did to help the people in Haiti recover from the earthquake. Superintendent Retchless gave the Committee an overview of projects that were also done at the Jefferson, Memorial Park, Middle, and High Schools.

The Superintendent announced that the 2010-2011 School Budget Public Hearing will be held on Monday, April 26, 2010 at 6:30 PM. The regular meeting will begin immediately following the hearing. Motion to approve by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

After a general discussion regarding the high school pilot program regarding cell phones and community service, the proposed 2010-2011 High School handbook was tabled until the next meeting. Motion by Mrs. Pezzella, seconded by Mr. Mills, unanimous.

Mr. Grimmer, Social Studies Chairperson, reviewed the proposed Middle School Social Studies textbook including website and internet access. It was suggested that a pilot program be adopted which would include a combination of on-line materials and books. On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to table the vote until the next meeting.

The Superintendent stated that the 2009-2010 No Child Left Behind Report Card highlighting the Adequately Yearly Progress and MCAS results is available on the district's website

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the proposed timeline for the Superintendent's Evaluation Process was approved.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, the proposed graduation procedure and senior activities were approved.

On the recommendation of Assistant Superintendent Scarpelli, the Contracted Special Education Transportation route quotes were awarded to the lowest bidder. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was voted to approve the Skarbek/Bober Teacher Scholarship and to send a thank you letter. The scholarship will be awarded to a senior from Rockland High School who will attend college with the goal of becoming an elementary school teacher. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous.

After a general discussion regarding changing the designation of the Rogers Middle School from elementary to secondary, it was voted to table the vote until the next meeting. The discussion included the fact that the Middle School and the High School would be on the same schedule and 990 hours of instruction per year would apply to both schools. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous.

Public Service Announcements included the Arts Festival on Thursday, April 15th from 6-9 PM, Spellman Oratorical the same night at 7:30 PM, Meet & Greet the new Principal at Jefferson on Wednesday, April 14th, various town sports activities and congratulations to Mr. Minahan and Mr. Kimball.

On motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, the meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas F. Mills, Jr.
Secretary

